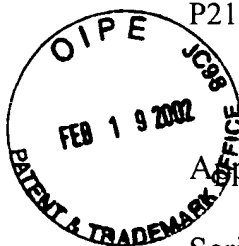


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Takashi SHIMOJIMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2171

Serial No. : 09/988,240

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed : November 19, 2001

For : FILE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND
CONTENT RECORDING/PLAYBACK
APPARATUS

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, the Applicants hereby call the following document to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 8-161210 to Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp. (NTT), published June 21, 1996. An English language abstract of the same is provided.

A copy of the above-noted document is attached and has been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the

P21691.A01

Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

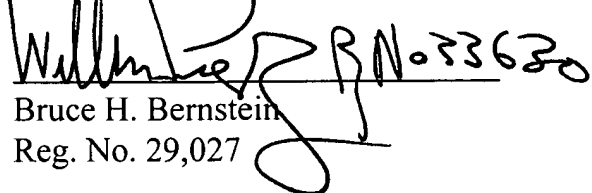
Applicants also call the following copending, commonly assigned application to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/123,544 to TAN et al., which filed on July 28, 1998.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the specification, claims, and drawings of the above-mentioned co-pending application is attached hereto. The Examiner is, none-the-less, encouraged to review the file wrapper of this U.S. patent application at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. If for any reason the Examiner cannot locate the application, the Applicants will provide any requested materials, if possible.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Takashi SHIMOJIMA et al.


Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

February 19, 2002
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1941 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191